
GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Blood alcohol level:	The concentration of ethanol (alcohol) found in blood following ingestion. Measured in grams per 100 ml of blood or grams %. In the State of Washington, 0.08 grams % is considered the legally intoxicated level while driving.
Drug:	Therapeutic drug: A substance, other than food, used in the prevention, diagnosis, alleviation, treatment, or cure of disease. Recreational drug: A drug used non-medically for personal stimulation/depression/euphoria.
Drug caused death:	Death directly caused by a drug or drugs in combination with each other or with alcohol.
Jurisdiction:	The jurisdiction of the Medical Examiner extends to all reportable deaths occurring within the boundaries of King County, whether or not the incident leading to the death (such as an accident) occurred within the county. Reportable deaths are defined by RCW 68.50, as explained in the "Description and Purpose" section of this report. Not all natural deaths are reportable deaths within the jurisdiction of the Medical Examiner.
Manner:	A classification of the way in which the cause of death came about, with special reference to social relationships and personal causation. It is the way in which the cause of death came about, whether by force of natural disease processes, by accidental or suicidal self-infliction or by other external forces.
Manner: Accident	Death other than natural, where there is no evidence of intent, i.e., unintentional. In this report, traffic accidents are classified separately.
Manner: Homicide	Death resulting from intentional harm (explicit or implicit) of one person by another, including actions of grossly reckless behavior.

Manner: Natural	Death caused solely by disease. If natural death is hastened by injury (such as a fall or drowning in a bathtub), the manner of death is classified other than natural.
Manner: Suicide	Death as a result of a purposeful action with intent (explicit or implicit) to ends one's own life.
Manner: Traffic	Unintentional deaths of drivers, passengers, and pedestrians involving motor vehicles on public roadways. Accidents involving motor vehicles on private property (such as driveways) are not included in this category and are classified non-traffic, vehicular accidents.
Manner: Therapeutic- Complication	Death occurring during, or predominantly due to complications of medical/surgical therapeutic or diagnostic procedures. [Note: In 2000, and in previous reports, this manner was included in "Manner: Accident".]
Manner: Undetermined	Manner assigned when there is insufficient evidence or information, especially about intent, to assign a specific manner.
Opiate:	Any preparation or derivative of opium, including heroin, morphine or codeine. In this report "opiate deaths" most likely refer to heroin caused deaths.
Poison:	Any substance, either taken internally or applied externally, that is injurious to health or dangerous to life, and with no medicinal benefit.
Perinatal/Fetal Death:	Category of deaths that occur within the uterus (fetal) or shortly before, during, or shortly after birth (perinatal).
Race:	The racial categories used in this report are: White; Black; Native American; Asian (S.E. Asian/Pacific Islander); and Other.